



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (15-5239)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Staff present: Bolaji Famuyiwa and Jenny Kimbell (15-5240)

Present: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montaña, Vice Chairperson Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, Commissioner Johanna Arias-Bhatia, Commissioner Percy Duran III, Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D. and Commissioner Theresa Zhen

Excused: Commissioner Susan Burton, Commissioner Keren M. Goldberg and Commissioner Anne S. Hill

Call to Order. (15-5110)

Chairperson Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Chairperson Montaña led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

1. Approval of the October 21, 2015 Minutes. (15-5111)

On motion of Commissioner Donald S. Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Percy Duran and unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

2. Chairperson's Report on various items. (15-5112)

There was no report presented.

3. Treasurer's Report. (15-5113)

Commissioner Andrews reported that the balance of the Commissioner's Charitable Fund remains at \$408.90.

4. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports. (15-5114)

In regards to item number seven, Staff shared that there is a timeline to send a letter to the Office of Child Protection that will need to be adhered to.

5. Commissioners' Reports on Group Home and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from October 22, 2015 to October 27, 2015. (15-5115)

During the reporting period, the following group homes/facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner Andrews visited:

- **Carson Sheriff Station (Avalon Blvd., Carson, CA) on October 26, 2015.**
- **Starview Group Home (226th Street, Torrance, CA) on October 27, 2015.**

Vice Chairperson Bigby and Commissioners Arias-Bhatia and Duran visited:

- **Phoenix House of Los Angeles (Eldridge Ave., Lakeview Terrace, CA) on October 23, 2015.**

Commissioner Grills visited:

- **Humanistic Foundation, Inc. (62nd Street, Los Angeles, CA) on October 27, 2015.**

Not Available:

Vice Chairperson Bigby visited:

- **Graces Residential (Mountain Ave, Claremont, CA) on October 22, 2015 and reported that no one was home.**

III. DISCUSSIONS

6. Discussion and recommendation on the Office of Inspector General's presentation. (15-5116)

Commissioner Zhen stated that at the October 21, 2015 presentation from the Office of Inspector General, a number of action items were presented by the Inspector General (IG). She stated that one way that the SBC can re-envision themselves, is to become a Commission that works closely with the OIG. The OIG can be another branch to receive their findings. Currently, the SBC reports are only going to the BOS, however, if the reports were going to the OIG, they have staff that spend 70% of their time in jails and the SBC reports can be used to facilitate actual monitoring.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Zhen, seconded by Vice Chairperson Bigby and unanimously the Commission agreed to invite a representative from the OIG to attend monthly business meetings and invite the IG and the Assistant IG for a follow-up meeting to discuss future ways that the two entities can collaborate.

7. Discussion and recommendation to draft a letter to the Office of Child Protection. (15-5117)

Commissioner Grills reported that after the presentation from the Juvenile Court Mental Health Services regarding Psychotropic Medication Administration the SBC, she was given the task to draft correspondence on behalf of the Commission to the BOS to share concerns that arose from that meeting. Since then she was invited to meet with the Director of the Office of Child Protection, (OCP), to discuss if adequate services are available for children once they return from group homes. She then learned that the OCP also has concerns regarding the issues of psychotropic medication use and have been conducting a series of meetings to discuss the topic. Commissioner Grills and the Director shared their concerns regarding over-medication, accountability and the parties responsible for monitoring these issues. The OCP was not aware of some of the issues the SBC has uncovered.

During the meeting, it became clear that the letter will have more impact if it is addressed to the OCP rather than the BOS. The OCP will be able to include the concerns of the SBC into their report to the BOS. Commissioner Grills will draft a letter for the Commissions' approval.

8. Discussion and recommendation on SBC reporting to the Board of

Supervisors. (15-5118)

During discussion, Commissioner Zhen suggested that the Commission either prepare a written report to submit to the BOS or to make physical quarterly appearances before the BOS.

Commissioner Grills recommended that prior to the Commission going before the BOS; they should prepare statistical data to be able to respond to questions accurately, including how the data was compiled.

Ms. Twila Kerr, Commission Service, Chief, was also present to address the questions and concerns of the Commission.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Grills, seconded by Commissioner Andrews and unanimously carried, the Commission agreed to draft a report quarterly to the BOS and not make physical appearances.

Commissioner Theresa Zhen made an amendment to Commissioner Grills' motion, seconded by Commissioner Arias-Bhatia, and unanimously carried that the SBC first quarterly report is from October 2015 to December 2015 and that the Commission draft a report to the BOS to present January 2016.

Vice Chairperson Bigby made a second amendment to the motion, seconded by Commissioner Arias-Bhatia, and unanimously carried, that the SBC report to the BOS covers a period of six months from July 2015 to December 2015.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

- 9. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (15-5119)**

The following items were introduced for discussion and are to be placed on a future agenda:

Review and approve correspondence regarding psychotropic medication, to be sent to the Office of Child Protection.

Public Comment

10. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (15-5120)

Members of the Civil Grand Jury were present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

11. Adjournment for the meeting of October 28, 2015. (15-5121)

There being no further business, Chairperson Montaña adjourned the meeting of October 28, 2015 at 11:35 a.m.